

RECOGNIZING RUSSELL J.
SALVATORE AS EXECUTIVE OF
THE YEAR

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Russell J. Salvatore as the Buffalo Niagara Sales & Marketing Executives' choice for their 2012 Executive of the Year. Russ is a talented businessman, food service visionary and generous philanthropist, who is truly inspired by his love of the people of Western New York.

From an early age, Russ saw the great potential for service through entrepreneurship through his father, Joseph Salvatore. Joseph owned Salvatore's Restaurant, a family eatery on Buffalo's East Side. Growing up his father's restaurant, Russ developed a passion for service, tireless work ethic, and an appreciation for the value of a warm meal.

Joseph passed the family business down to Russ and his brother in 1967. Shortly after, Russ pursued his own endeavors, purchasing a small hot dog stand on Transit Road and transforming it into Salvatore's Italian Gardens. For nearly forty years, Russ lived and breathed Salvatore's. His tireless work turned Salvatore's Italian Gardens into a renowned restaurant and banquet center, winner of countless awards and national recognition. By 1995, Salvatore's had become a destination in its own right, allowing Russ to open an attached hotel, Salvatore's Garden Palace. Russ truly enjoyed every aspect of his daily work, and although he signed over the business to his son Joseph in 2003, he remained closely involved until 2006, when he chose to retire.

Russ's passion for serving Western New York drew him out of retirement before long. He returned to work at age 75, opening Russell's Steaks, Chops, and More, in November 2008. Russell's quickly became one of our region's most prominent steakhouses. The month after, Russ opened Salvatore's Grand Hotel next to his new restaurant, creating another successful combination of a well-regarded hotel and fine dining establishment.

Russ's philanthropic efforts are as renowned as his business endeavors. He is a public supporter of countless charities, events, scholarships, and causes. To encourage students pursuing careers in food service and hospitality, he formed a partnership with Trocaire College to found the Russell J. Salvatore School of Hospitality and Business. Situated on a satellite campus next to his new steakhouse, students at the school gain concrete experience through internships at Russell's Steaks, Chops and More, and Salvatore's Grand Hotel.

In the wake of one of our region's most tragic days, Russ stepped in to aid heartbroken local families. On February 12, 2009, a passenger plane known as Flight 3407 crashed to the ground in Clarence Center, New York, killing all on board. To honor the fifty victims, Russ helped secure a memorial in Heroes and Patriots Park.

Perhaps one of Russ's most well-known gestures is his purchase of 10,000 Buffalo Bills tickets, which prevented a "black-out" of a home game in December 2012. Russ's investment allowed one of the season's last

games to be broadcast on local television. He donated nearly all 10,000 tickets to local organizations, patrons of his restaurant, and community members, to show his deep gratitude to the people of Western New York.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to recognize Mr. Russell Salvatore's great contributions and admirable generosity. Buffalo is nicknamed the "City of Good Neighbors," and Russ epitomizes this spirit. I congratulate him on the incredible honor of being named Executive of the Year, and I wish him continued fulfillment and the absolute best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING MAINE MAPLE SUNDAY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Maine's maple syrup producers in celebrating Maine Maple Sunday on March 24, 2013.

The history of maple syrup in Maine dates back to before the colonists first landed on our shores. Native American tribes from throughout the Northeast first developed the practice of drawing sugar and syrup from the sap of maple trees. Hundreds of years later, maple syrup remains a staple of Maine's economy and cultural heritage.

Maine Maple Sunday is always held on the fourth Sunday in March. Sugarhouses open their doors on this day to offer free samples and demonstrations to enthusiastic customers from all over the Northeast. Nurtured by Maine's unique soils and climate, the maple syrup on display during Maple Sunday is among the finest in the world.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Arnold and Elaine Luce of Anson, T.A. Greene of Sebago, the family of the late Linwood Foster of Skowhegan, John Hodgkins of Yarmouth, Robert Smith of Skowhegan, the family of the late Chester Basford of Fairfield, John and Eva Steeves of Skowhegan, and Pete Tracy of Farmington for their hard work in making Maine Maple Sunday possible. Their efforts are responsible for the successful continuation of one of Maine's oldest and proudest traditions.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating Maine's maple syrup producers on putting together another Maine Maple Sunday.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL" BLOIS SEAL

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I have known Judy Seal for many years and have respected, appreciated and admired her leadership on education issues in my district.

It was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of her father William "Bill" Blois Seal—a native Long Beach son who bravely served his country in war and later served his community as an educator for more than four decades.

Bill was born at Seaside Hospital in 1924, attended schools in Long Beach and graduated from Wilson High School.

Enlisting in the Army in 1942, Bill's youthful hobby of pigeon ing led him to service as a Pigeoneer in the U.S. Army. Homing pigeons and their handlers served in all fronts of the war, often times providing communications when other means were not available or too unsecure.

Bill was in the fourth wave to land at Omaha Beach during the Normandy Invasion and wound up spending his 20th birthday just days later in a foxhole on the Allied beachhead. He later served through the push across France and fought in the Battle of the Bulge, the last major German offensive of the war.

Selected for officer training, Bill's tour in Europe was cut short as he was sent back to the States. The war ended before Bill could be re-deployed and he returned to Long Beach to continue his interrupted education.

He entered Long Beach City College, and then moved on to the University of Southern California where he earned both undergraduate and Master's degrees in education.

During this time, Bill married his high school sweetheart, Betty. They would remain married until her passing in 2011. They would go on to have three children: son Christopher and daughters Judy and Nancy.

As a young educator, Bill joined the Long Beach Unified School District, becoming part of the original faculty at both Stanford Junior High and Millikan High schools. His career eventually took him to back to Long Beach City College, where he had begun his higher education and where his own father had worked as a Dean.

At the end of his 43-year career in education, Bill had become a beloved figure in Long Beach, both for his educational work and for his work on behalf of Vietnam War veterans and the Cambodian community.

Bill passed away on March 15, 2013 at Long Beach Community Hospital in the arms of his beloved daughter, Judy.

THE KEYS TO LIFE: HONORING AN AMERICAN HERO, CORPORAL ADAM KEYS OF THE 618TH ENGINEER SUPPORT CO., THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Pennsylvania's most heroic sons, Adam Keys of the United States Army, 618th Engineer Combat Team. On July 14, 2010, while on patrol in his vehicle, a thousand pound IED went off, killing four of Adam's Brothers in Arms, including his best friend Jesse Reed. Adam and Jesse were close friends at White High School and joined the Army together. Close to death, miraculously Adam survived to begin his new battle. Adam lost his legs and an arm in this horrific attack. I have spent time with Adam and his mother, Julie Keys, on a number of occasions. Adam's bravery and Mrs. Keys' strength go unmatched. This poem, "The Keys to Life," authored by Mr. Bert Caswell—a tireless and devoted advocate for our wounded warriors—is